

LINCOLN PARKS AND RECREATION

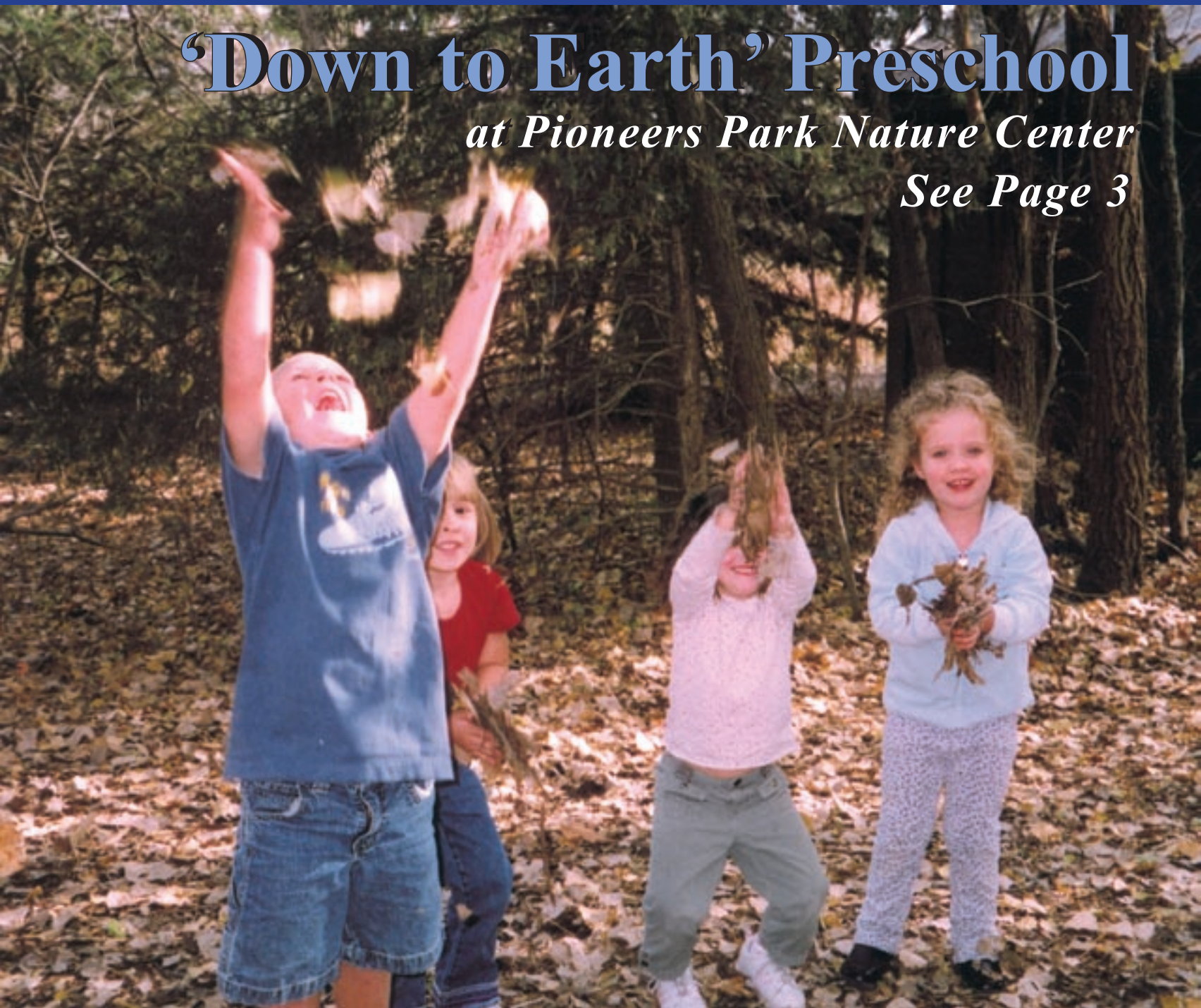
City COMPASS

Vol.V, No. II

January, February, March, April

2006

‘Down to Earth’ Preschool *at Pioneers Park Nature Center* *See Page 3*



IT'S AN ALL NEW Lincoln Parks and Recreation

Visit us online at: lincoln.ne.gov Keyword: Parks

City COMPASS

A Guide to Recreation in Lincoln

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AmeriCorps/VISTA Need You

Lincoln Parks and Recreation is looking for applicants for the AmeriCorps and Vista Program.

- Monthly Living Allowance
- Education Award
- Health Insurance
- Deferment of Student Loans
- Childcare Allowance For Qualified



On-hands training
on programming and
working with children &
youth. Your chance to be
creative and work with
a team of members who
want to make a difference!

**For Information and
Application Materials
Contact:**

**441-4907, dbuckman@lincoln.ne.gov or
441-4900, kburklun@lincoln.ne.gov**

About The Cover: Nature Center Preschoolers Welcome Fall With Annual Countdown



seasonal visits to a favorite cottonwood tree, studying the natural symbols of Nebraska, watching a butterfly emerge and releasing it, and watching the release of a recovered raptor.

A large portion of each day is spent outdoors in almost any weather. These regular experiences of the beauty and diversity of the natural world lead to important lessons in environmental stewardship that will last a lifetime.

Parents support the program in numerous ways and join children during annual events such as a hayrack ride in Pioneers Park, planting the preschool butterfly garden and seasonal celebrations. Preschool graduates regularly return to visit a place that has become very special to them and their families.

The Nature Center Preschool was one of the first programs in this region to emphasize the importance of the natural world in early childhood education. It is dedicated to nurturing a sense of wonder, developing an appreciation of nature, cultivating conceptual understanding, integrating language, math and the arts, providing daily exercise, and fostering small motor skill development.

Children three to five years old are enrolled for the school year. Tuesday/Thursday and Wednesday/Friday, morning and afternoon sessions are available. Registrations open March 1st for 2006-07. Visits to the preschool are welcomed. SEE PAGE 33 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

ADULTS

Sandhill Crane Trip

Enjoy the magnificent spring spectacle of the sandhill crane migration. The trip will include videos on the bus, stops at ponds and fields to view cranes and waterfowl, and sunset at the Fort Kearney Bridge watching the cranes coming to the river for the night. Participants should bring their own picnic supper. Call the Nature Center for more information.

Deadline: 2/17

3/20 Mon 12:30-9:30 pm
\$40/person Meet at Auld Rec. Center



Basic Bird Identification

Learn to identify area birds during the exciting spring migration period. Evening sessions cover field guides, binoculars and scopes, tips on identifying birds, habitat and migration, publications, and organizations. Saturday morning fieldtrips visit local birding hotspots (participants will carpool).

Co-sponsored by Wachiska Audubon Society.

Deadline: 4/1

Tue 4/4, 4/11, 4/18 & 4/25 7-9 pm Prairie Bldg.
Sat 4/8, 4/15, 4/22 & 4/29 8-10 am (fieldtrips)
\$40/person/8 sessions

SCOUTS

Free Hikes

One hour naturalist-led hikes offered for scouts Saturday mornings at 10 am. Call to register at least two weeks in advance. First-come, first-served.

Badgework

Nature Center programming will help your group complete a badge in one morning or afternoon. Program will rotate.

Eco-Explorer Try-It for Brownie Scouts

Habitat is where your home is. Explore Nature Center habitats and create one for little critters. Nature Center staff will help you complete activities #1, 3, 4, and 5.

Deadline: 3/22

3/25 Sat 9:30-11:30 am
\$6/scout; leaders free Chet Ager Bldg.

Your Outdoor Surroundings Badge

Explore the fun you can have in the outdoors. Nature Center staff will help you complete activities #4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.

Ages: Jr. Girl Scouts **Deadline: 4/26**

4/29 Sat 9:30-Noon
\$6/scout; leaders free Prairie Bldg.

Naturalist Activity Badge

Learn to identify the poisonous plants and animals of our area, investigate bird flyways and more! Nature Center staff will help you complete activities # 3, 5, 6, and 8.

Ages: Webelos **Deadline: 5/3**

5/6 Sat 1:00-3:30 pm
\$6/scout; leaders free Prairie Bldg.

Nature Center Preschool

Where Kids Explore

September 2006 - May 2007

Enrollment begins March 1
Tuesday/Thursday Sessions or
Wednesday/Friday Sessions

Morning Sessions: 9:00 - 11:30 am

Afternoon Sessions: 12:30-2:30 pm

Call 441-7895 for a brochure.

See Page 3 for more information.



A Nature
NOTE!

CSI:
Nature
Center
CAMP

Investigate a
different nature
crime scene
every day!

See Ad on Page 30

Make it a
special day
for Mom!

Treat your mother
to A Mother's Day
Breakfast & Birdwalk
at Pioneers Park
Call 441-7895

More info on Page 32